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STAMICARBON BV *EP -300-578-A
17.07.87-NL-001694 (25.01.89) A01g-09/02 A01g-31/02
Forming dimensionally stable seed trough - by folding plastic web having longitudinal fold grooves so that surface with greater light reflectance forms outer through surface
C89-011444 R(BE DE FR GB NL)

A dimensionally stable seed trough is made by folding a plastic web having longitudinal fold grooves (11,12), so that the web surface with greater light reflectance forms the outer face of the trough. The web may comprise a black and white layer (5,6), formed by coextrusion or laminating, or may comprise a black plastic layer with one side metallised or coated with Al foil.

ADVANTAGE

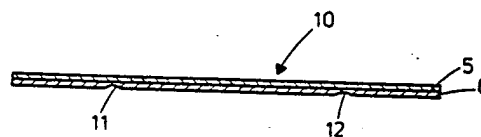
Reflects externally incident light to assist the green parts of plants, while internally absorbing light so that less reaches the root system.

EMBODIMENT

The web (claimed) may be formed by laminating a thick polypropylene or propylene copolymer base layer which provides dimensional stability with a film of LDPE with a

A(12-W4A)

coating of ethylene vinyl acetate adhesive incorporating more than 20 wt. % vinyl acetate.
(4pp1358HWDwgNo2/2).
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54 Process for the production of a seed trough and a means thereto.

57 Process for the production of a seed trough starting from a plastic web with longitudinal grooves along which the web can be folded to form a trough. The surfaces of the web have different light-reflecting capacities. The web is folded in such a manner that the surface with the greatest light-reflecting capacity forms the outer face of the trough.

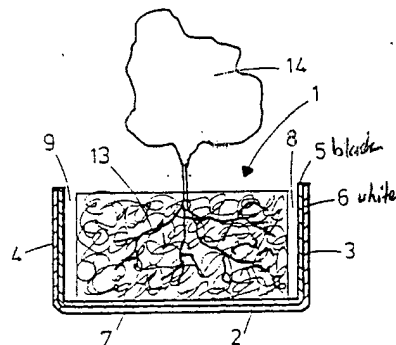


FIG. 1



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Process for the production of a seed trough starting from a plastic web with longitudinal grooves along which the web can be folded to form a trough. The surfaces of the web have different light-reflecting capacities. The web is folded in such a manner that the surface with the greatest light-reflecting capacity forms the outer face of the trough.

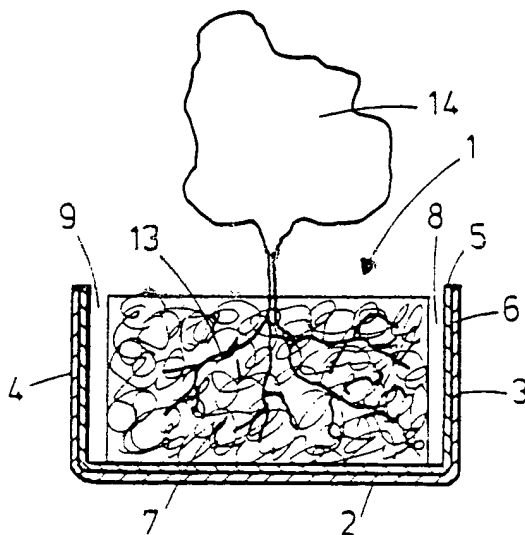


FIG. 1

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~~copolymer and are coloured black and white, respectively.~~

The seed trough contains a nursing medium 7 consisting of a package of rock wool which, as usual, leaves spaces 8 and 9 between itself and the walls 3 and 4.

The seed trough 1 is obtained by folding a plastic web 10 consisting of two layers 5 and 6 of ethylene-propylene copolymer, see Fig. 2, layer 5 being black and layer 6 white. The plastic web 10 has two grooves 11 and 12 along which the web 10 can be folded to form the seed trough as shown in Fig. 1.

Light falling on layer 6, which forms the outer face of the trough 1, is reflected and becomes at least partly available to the green parts of plants cultivated in the seed troughs. Light falling in spaces 8 and 9 on layer 5, which forms the inner face of the seed trough, is largely absorbed by this layer, which means that it is not reflected to the nursing medium 7. This presents the advantage that less light penetrates the nursing medium and that, consequently, the root growth 13 of the plant 14 is stimulated.

Claims

1. Process for the production of a dimensionally stable seed trough, which seed trough is obtained by folding a plastic web provided with longitudinal folding lines, such as grooves, characterized in that the seed trough is folded from a web which consists substantially of plastic and of which one surface has a greater light-reflecting capacity than the other and that the web is folded in such a manner that the surface with the greatest light-reflecting capacity forms the outer face of the finished seed trough.

2. Plastic web suitable for the production of a seed trough according to claim 1, characterized in that the web consists of two differently coloured layers of plastic.

3. Plastic web according to claim 2, characterized in that the web is manufactured by coextruding two layers of plastic.

4. Plastic web according to claim 2, characterized in that the web is manufactured by laminating two layers of plastic.

5. Plastic web according to any one of claims 2-4, characterized in that one layer consists of black plastic and the other of white plastic.

6. Plastic web suitable for the production of a seed trough according to claim 1, characterized in that the web consists of a layer of black plastic, one side of which is provided with a metal coating which has a greater light-reflecting capacity than the layer of black plastic.

7. Plastic web according to claim 6, characterized in that the metal coating is an aluminium foil.

8. Plastic web according to claim 6, characterized in that the metal coating is obtained by metalization.

9. Plastic web suitable for the production of a seed trough according to claim 1, characterized in that one of the surfaces of a plastic layer has a coating with a greater or smaller light-reflecting capacity than that of the plastic layer.

10. Plastic web suitable for the production of a seed trough according to claim 1, characterized in that the plastic web is obtained by laminating a relatively thick base layer consisting of polypropylene or a copolymer of propylene - which layer serves to provide the dimensional stability of the trough - and a film consisting of a layer of low-density polyethylene provided with an adhesive coating of ethylene vinyl acetate (EVA) incorporating more than 15 wt%, preferably more than 20 wt%, vinyl acetate.

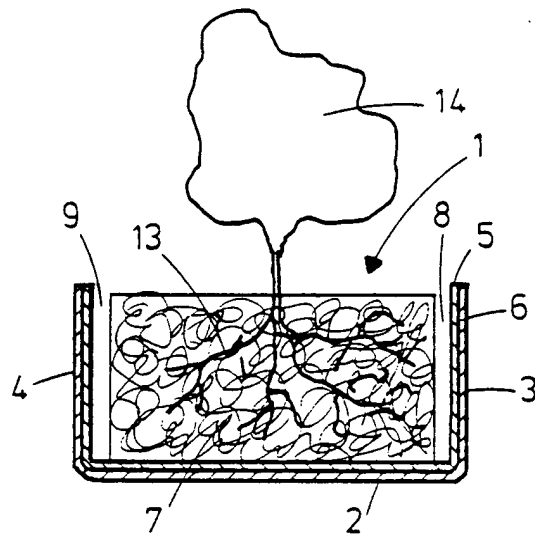


FIG. 1

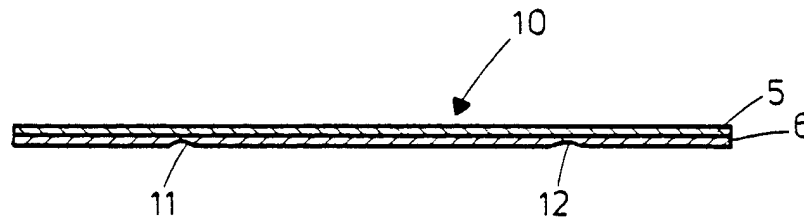


FIG. 2

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